

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 00175 01 OF 02 220112Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 OES-06
AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 SP-02 /095 W
-----220132Z 005927 /73

R 212350Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2124
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0175

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS OES/CP

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SPOP USUN
SUBJECT: PRELIMINARY REPORT OF U.S. DELEGATION TO 19TH
SESSION OF UN POPULATION COMMISSION

SUMMARY: THE 19TH SESSION OF THE UN POPULATION COMMISSION,
UNDER THE EXCELLENT CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR. DIRK J. VAN DE KAA OF
THE NETHERLANDS, WAS QUIET, FRIENDLY, BUSINESSLIKE, AND GENER-
ALLY SATISFACTORY FROM OUR VIEWPOINT, THOUGH WE WOULD HAVE
PREFERRED MORE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND A GREATER SENSE OF
URGENCY AND ACTION-ORIENTATION ON THE PART OF MOST OTHER
DELEGATIONS (SEE COMMENT AT END). IN THIS EXPERT GROUP'S
SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM ON THE UN POPULATION DIVISION,
FOUR MAJOR ISSUES WERE TAKEN UP: FIRST, UN POPULATION DIVISION
PLANS FOR MONITORING, REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE IMPLEMENTA-
TION OF THE WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION. SECOND, THE
PRIORITIES OF THE DIVISION AND THE NEED FOR ADDITIONAL INFOR-
MATION ON FINANCIAL AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS FOR THOSE
PRIORITIES ALONG WITH DEBATE ON ONE PARTICULAR PROPOSAL,
POPULATION INFORMATION SYSTEMS (POPINS). THIRD, ALTHOUGH NOT
WIDELY DISCUSSED, THERE WERE THE QUESTIONS POSED BY THE ON-
GOING RESTRUCTURING EXERCISE AND THEIR POSSIBLE IMPACT FOR THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00175 01 OF 02 220112Z

POPULATION DIVISION AND THE COMMISSION. FINALLY, THERE
WAS BROAD CONCERN OVER HOW BEST TO RELATE POPULATION
MATTERS TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS. OFFICERS ELECTED
AT THIS SESSION IN ADDITION TO MR. VAN DE KAA WERE:
VICE CHAIRMEN, MRS. SERLA GREWAL (INDIA) AND MR. EDUARDO
SANTOS (ECUADOR), RAPPORTEUR, MR. SAMUEL B. JONES
(GHANA).

1. THE SESSION WAS OPENED WITH USEFUL STATEMENTS BY (1) THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (ESA), GABRIEL VAN LAETHEM, WHO STRESSED THAT ACTION TAKEN WITH REGARD TO POPULATION WAS INDISPENSIBLE TO THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRIES AND (2) BY LEON TABAH, DIRECTOR OF THE UN POPULATION DIVISION, WHO POINTED OUT THE NEED FOR DEMOGRAPHIC DATA AND PROJECTIONS, THAT SHOULD NOT BE SEEN AS EITHER GOOD OR BAD IN THEMSELVES BUT USEFUL FOR OTHER ACTIONS. RELATED TO THESE BROAD OBSERVATIONS, THERE WERE SEVERAL PRESENTATIONS ON LARGER-SCALE ECONOMIC STUDIES BEING CARRIED ON IN THE UN SYSTEM AND THE ROLE OF POPULATION DATA ON THEM. THESE INCLUDED PHILIPPE DE SEYNES, CONCERNING THE PROGRAMME OF FUTURE STUDIES WHICH HE DIRECTS IN UNITAR, AND PROJECT 2000, THE LEONTIEFF STUDY, SUPERVISED BY ESA. OF RELATED INTEREST WAS THE REVIEW BY THE COMMISSION OF THE GUIDELINES ON POPULATION-RELATED FACTORS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNERS AT WHICH IT WAS AGREED THAT THE GUIDELINES WERE USEFUL FOR BOTH DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND THAT FURTHER WORK MIGHT BE DONE IN CONNECTION WITH THEM, INCLUDING EXPANDING THE GUIDELINES AND MAKING THEM THE BASIS FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONSULTATIONS IN ASSOCIATION WITH PARAGRAPHS 31 AND 32 OF THE WORLD POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION.

2. THE PRESENTATION OF THE PARTICULAR ACTIVITIES BY THE DIVISION IN THE PROGRESS OF WORK, 1978-79 WORK PROGRAMME, AND 1978-81 MEDIUM-TERM PLAN BY THE SECTION UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 00175 01 OF 02 220112Z

HEADS WAS INFORMATIVE AND ADDED DEPTH TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE DIVISION ACTUALLY DOES. GENERALLY, THESE DID NOT PROVOKE A GREAT DEAL OF DISCUSSION AND WERE BROADLY APPROVED. THE U.S. DELEGATION ASKED, EARLY IN THE SESSION, FOR SOME BREAKOUT OF THE STAFF AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE WORK PROGRAMME AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN. THIS COULD NOT BE PROVIDED FOR THE 1978-79 BIENNIUM, AND WE CO-SPONSORED A DRAFT RESOLUTION TO ENSURE THAT SUCH INFORMATION WOULD BE PROVIDED AT SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS. WITH A STATEMENT BY MR. LAVAU, DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET DIVISION OR, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, WHICH PROMISED SUCH INFORMATION AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AT FUTURE SESSIONS, WE WITHDREW THE DRAFT RESOLUTION. THE SECRETARIAT INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD LOOK TO THE POPULATION COMMISSION TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE ON THOSE ACTIVITIES WHICH SHOULD HAVE GREATER OR LESS PRIORITY. AT THE END OF THE SESSION, THE USDEL CO-SPONSORED E RESOLUTION TAKING NOTE WITH SATISFACTION OF THE PROGRESS OF WORK,

BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME, AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN BUT STATED THAT THIS RESOLUTION DID NOT COMMIT THE SECRETARIAT OR U.S. GOVERNMENT TO ANY BUDGET LEVELS FOR THESE PERIODS.

4. THE MOST EXTENDED DEBATE OF THE SESSION REVOLVED AROUND THE PROPOSAL TO TAKE THE FIRST STEPS LEADING TO THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A COMPUTERIZED POPULATION INFORMATION SYSTEM (POPINS). THE MAJOR CONCERNS WERE OVER THE UTILITY OF POPINS FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND ITS POSSIBLE COST (ALTHOUGH EXTRA-BUDGETARY FUNDS FOR IT WERE IN SIGHT). THE U.S. DELEGATION SUPPORTED A CAUTIOUS APPROACH AS REFLECTED IN THE RESOLUTION WHICH THE COMMISSION RECOMMENDED TO ECOSOC. IN JOINING THE CONSENSUS ON THE RESOLUTION, THE DELEGATION POINTED OUT THAT THE DIVISION SHOULD SEEK THE PARTICIPATION OF INTERDEPARTMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS BOARD AS REQUIRED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 00175 01 OF 02 220112Z

BY ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 208 (XXXI).

5. ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL INTERESTS OF THE U.S. WAS THE PROPOSAL FOR THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE WORLD

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 00175 02 OF 02 220053Z
ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 OES-06
AID-05 EB-08 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 SP-02 /095 W
-----220132Z 005698 /73

R 212350Z JAN 77
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2125
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0175

POPULATION PLAN OF ACTION. THE DOCUMENT PRESENT BY THE SECRETARIAT ON THIS ISSUE WAS NOT AS SPECIFIC AS THE

COMMISSION WOULD HAVE LIKED, AND A CONTACT GROUP WAS FORMED TO WORK OUT IDEAS FOR A TIMETABLE OF WORK LEADING TO A REPORT TO ECOSOC IN THE SUMMER OF 1979. THE COMMISSION EMPHASIZED (1) THE NEED TO COVER THE RANGE OF RECOMMENDATIONS INCLUDED IN THE WPPA; (2) INVOLVEMENT OF THE REGIONAL COMMISSIONS AND THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, AS WELL AS THE SECRETARIAT, IN THIS ACTIVITY; (3) THE DESIRE TO HOLD DOWN THE BURDEN OF REPORTING BY GOVERNMENTS AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE TO AN EVEN GREATER NUMBER OF RESPONSES; AND (4) THE NEED FOR EARLY ACTION BY ALL PARTIES INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITY. THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION RESPONDED BY ANSWERING A SERIES OF QUESTIONS WHICH GAVE GREATER SPECIFICITY TO THE PLAN FOR MONITORING, REVIEW AND APPRAISAL, GAVE HIS OWN SUGGESTED TIMETABLE, AND INDICATED THAT HE WOULD NEED ONE ADDITIONAL STAFF PERSON AND AN EXPERT COMITE TO CARRY IT OUT. THIS PROVOKED SOME VIGOROUS DISCUSSION, BUT IT WAS AGREED THAT THE STEPS TO ENSURE THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL MERITED THE ADDITIONAL EFFORT.

COMMENT: THE US CAN GENERALLY BE SAID TO HAVE ACHIEVED ITS OBJECTIVES AT THIS SESSION OF THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 00175 02 OF 02 220053Z

POPULATION COMMISSION: (1) THE IMPORTANCE OF THE PROCESS OF REVIEW AND APPRAISAL OF THE WPPA WAS STRESSED AND THE REVIEW AND APPRAISAL WILL ENCOMPASS THE ENTIRE RANGE OF IDEAS CONTAINED IN THE WPPA INCLUDING THE STATUS OF WOMEN. (2) IN ORDER FOR THE POPULATION COMMISSION TO MAKE VALID JUDGEMENTS ON THE WORK OF THE DIVISION, THE SECRETARIAT COMMITTED ITSELF TO PROVIDING FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS OF THE BIENNIAL PROGRAM AT SUBSEQUENT SESSIONS. (3) IT WAS STRESSED TO THE DIVISION THAT UN POPULATION PROJECTIONS SHOULD BE MORE TIMELY, AND THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF THE WORLD FERTILITY SURVEY. (4) THE DIVISION TOOK NOTE OF OUR CONCERN THAT ACTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH THE GUIDELINES ON POPULATION MATTERS FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNERS SHOULD BE RELATED TO PARAS 31 AND 32 OF THE WPPA. THE DELEGATION BELIEVES THAT THE POPULATION COMMISSION DEMONSTRATED ITS USEFULNESS IN FURTHER US INTERESTS IN THE POPULATION FIELD. THIS SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND IN DETERMINING THE US POSITION ON RESTRUCTURING THE UN SYSTEM AS IT MAY AFFECT THE COMMISSION AND POPULATION DIVISION.

SHERER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POPULATION, REPORTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN00175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770023-0747
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770128/aaaaaygq.tel
Line Count: 222
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 12c6b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3531240
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRELIMINARY REPORT OF U.S. DELEGATION TO 19TH SESSION OF UN POPULATION COMMISSION SUMMARY: THE 19TH SESSION OF THE UN POPULATION COM
TAGS: SPOP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/12c6b7d2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009